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1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark J. Nuell on April 16, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[2]]~~1, in which the donor fluorophore is Dapoxyl sulfonamide.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[15]]~~14, in which the fluorescent protein is Green Fluorescent Protein, Enhanced Green Fluorescent Protein, Yellow Fluorescent Protein, DsRed, or Blue Fluorescent Protein.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, in which the acceptor fluorophore is tetramethyl rhodamine maleimide.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, in which the acceptor fluorophore is tetramethyl rhodamine maleimide.

25. (New) The method of claim 16, in which the donor fluorophore is selected from the group consisting of dansylamide and ABDN.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arlen Soderquist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1265. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and Alternate Fridays.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on (571) 272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Arlen Soderquist/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797